

**Quemado Ranger District**  
**2004 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions**  
(1/20/04)

**Allotment Name:** Spur Lake

**Permittee:** Marie D. Scarlett

**Permit Number:** 06-1148

**Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:** 478 Cow/Calf 6/1 to 10/31 Term Permit  
315 Cow/Calf 11/1 to 5/31 Term Permit  
85 Cow/ Calf 11/1 to 5/31 Pvt. Land

**2004 Annual Validation:** 455 Adult Cattle 6/1 to 10/31 Term Permit  
258 Adult Cattle 11/1 to 5/31 Term Permit  
85 Adult Cattle 11/1 to 5/31 Pvt. Land

**Grazing System:**

The current grazing system being utilized is a modified rest rotation system using separate summer pastures (Black Peak/Karruth, Jenkins Creek/SA and Canovas), winter pastures (Basin, Canyon, and Antelope), bull pastures (Todd Browning) and special calving/hospital pastures (Holding, Marie, Reservoir, Stateline and Coyote). All of the pastures are used during any one-year. The specific time and duration of use each year is designed in order to provide growing season rest for cool and warm season species in each pasture.

**2004:**

Simpson/Stateline	11/01/03 - 01/15/04	55 head	Allowable Use	40%
Lake Marie	01/16/04 - 03/15/04	55 head	Allowable Use	40%
Lower Coyote	03/16/04 - 06/01/04	55 head	Allowable Use	35%
Bell Mare	07/01/04 - 09/30/04	112 head	Allowable Use	35%
Todd Browning	11/01/03 - 05/31/04	21 bulls	Allowable Use	40%

Antelope/Canyon	11/01/03 - 02/15/04	267 head	Allowable Use	40%
Basin	02/16/04 - 05/31/04	267 head	Allowable Use	40%
Canovas	06/01/04 - 08/15/04	343 head	Allowable Use	35%
Karruth/Black Peak	08/16/04 - 10/01/04	343 head	Allowable Use	35%
Karruth/Black Peak	10/01/04 - 10/31/04	455 head	Allowable Use	35%
SA/Jenkins	Rested			

Antelope	11/01/04 - 01/31/05	315 head	Allowable Use	40%
Canyon	02/01/05 - 03/31/05	315 head	Allowable Use	40%
Basin	04/01/05 - 05/31/05	315 head	Allowable Use	40%

**Grazing Restriction:**

The following grazing restrictions will apply as they did in your 2003 Annual Operating Plan. If you do not have a map of this restricted area please, call and we will mail you a copy of the map.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in this area from February 1 to August 31, 2004 and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed. Stock tank cleaning must be approved in advance prior to any activities.

Coyote Creek riparian area is excluded from livestock grazing (from the center of Section 15 downstream to the center of Section 3 - see map sent to you in 1998). This exclusion is maintained by a combination of fences and natural barriers. Coyote Creek will be monitored periodically during the season with special attention to periods when livestock grazing is scheduled in adjacent pastures.

The purpose of this restriction is to provide reasonable and prudent measures to mitigate wildlife issues.

**Allowable Use:**

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considering proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods.

The Decision dated 12/13/99 set guidelines for forage utilization in key areas of 35% allowable use during growing season and 40% during the dormant season. Within riparian areas that contain woody riparian plants, utilization is limited to no more than 25% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a riparian area heavily hedged.

**Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:**

Key forage area utilization monitoring will continue. Forest Service personnel will visit the key monitoring areas within two weeks before or after livestock leave a pasture. The percentage of grazing utilization will be determined at that time. Participation by the permittee is always welcome and appreciated. Monitoring to be utilized will be based on ocular estimates, grazed plant method, clip/weigh and/or Grazing Intensity Guidelines.

If use rates exceed the allowable use rates, appropriate action will be taken on the permit or through the Annual Operating Plan. If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds 60% utilization on the uplands or exceeds the 25% of woody riparian sprouts/seedlings heavily hedged, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all the remaining key areas in the scheduled pasture are at maximum allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved

early to the next scheduled pasture. The riparian areas include: Coyote Creek, SA Creek, Rita Blanca Spring canyon, Jenkins Creek, Badger Creek, and Smith Creek.

**Utilization Monitoring Results:**

The following key areas were monitored during the 2003 grazing season for utilization:

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Use	Pasture	Date	Key Area	Use
L. Coyote	2/25/03	P-15	20%	Black Pk	8/11/03	P-5	5%
L. Coyote	2/25/03	P-12	15%	SA	8/11/03	C-11	0%
Canovas	1/23/03	C-2	28%	T. Browning	5/23/03	C-10	18%
Canovas	1/23/03	C-10	28%	Canyon	2/24/03	P-8	26%
Jenkins Cr	8/8/03	C-9	30%	Canyon	2/24/03	C-6	6%
Jenkins Cr	8/8/03	P-2	20%	Antelope	1/23/03	C-4	10%
Jenkins Cr	8/8/03	C-8	5%	Antelope	1/23/03	C-5	22%
Karruth	8/11/03	P-7	0%	State Line	2/24/03	P-14	18%
Karruth	8/11/03	C-7	5%	Simpson	2/24/03	drive thru	35%
L. Marie	5/23/03	#2	10%	Basin	1/23/03	C-3	2%
				Basin	5/23/03	C-3	22%

**Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of 2004, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

**Range developments:**

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

In addition specific maintenance discussed included:

1. Redevelopment of Karruth (Peak) Spring
2. Redevelopment of Rita Blanca Spring
3. Rebuild 1.5 miles of fence #5032
4. Replacement of several troughs

The district and permittee will cooperate to complete the Karruth and Rita Blanca Spring redevelopments. Please contact Collin Ewing at the district office for materials and permit modifications when you are ready to begin projects.

New Range developments discussed included:

1. Mackey would like a new well near the S.A. storage tank

This improvement would require proper clearance, environmental documentation, and permit modification. Please contact the district for the proper paperwork before implementing this development.

**Actual Use:**

The actual use for the allotment was calculated from records provided during your annual validation meeting as 4659 AM's. For your reference the 10-year average is 5303 AM's.

**Other Information:**

Mackey, you continue to achieve a large amount improvement of maintenance on the allotment. This work is greatly appreciated and recognized. If you have any comments or questions concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please do not hesitate to call John Pierson or Collin Ewing at (505) 773-4678.

/s/ John D. Pierson (for)

JANICE S. STEVENSON  
District Ranger

1/20/2004

Date